

**U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Colorado River Valley Field Office
2300 River Frontage Road
Silt, CO 81652**

**DOCUMENTATION OF LAND USE PLAN
CONFORMANCE AND NEPA ADEQUACY**

NUMBER: DOI-BLM-CO-N040-2011-0070-DNA

CASEFILE/PROJECT NUMBER (optional): 0504433

PROJECT NAME: Transfer and Reissue a Livestock Grazing Permit on the Moniger Ridge 2 Allotment

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: T4S R87W (See attached allotment map)

APPLICANT: Grazing Permittee

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED ACTION:

Transfer Grazing Preference: The Proposed Action is to transfer grazing preference from one individual to another individual's entity. The Grazing preference would remain attached to the same existing base property. The transfer action is categorically excluded in the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and no extraordinary circumstances apply and therefore no further analysis is required (516 DM 11.9 D1).

Issue Grazing Permit: A new grazing permit would be reissued to the permittee for the remainder of the term on the old permit (expiring 5/11/2015). The number/kind of livestock, period of use, percent public land and Animal Unit Months (AUMS) will remain the same as the previous permit. The issuance of a grazing permit requires further documentation under NEPA and is analyzed within this Documentation of NEPA Adequacy (DNA). The proposed actions are in accordance with 43 CFR 4100. The tables below summarize the scheduled grazing use and grazing preference for the permit.

Scheduled Grazing Use:

Authorization Number	Allotment Name & No.	Livestock Kind & No.	Period of use	%PL	AUMs
0507642	Moniger Ridge 2 #08646	20 Cattle	05/16 – 09/30	30	27

Grazing Preference (AUMS):

Authorization Number	Allotment Name & No.	Active AUMs	Suspended AUMs	Permitted AUMs
0507642	Moniger Ridge 2 #08646	27	0	27

The following other terms and conditions will be carried forward on the transferred permit:

- Maintenance of range improvements is required and shall be in accordance with all approved cooperative agreements and range improvement permits. Maintenance shall be completed prior to turnout. Maintenance activities shall be restricted to the footprint (previously disturbed area) of the project as it existed when it was initially constructed. The Bureau of Land Management shall be given 48 hours advance notice of any maintenance work that will involve heavy equipment. Disturbed areas will be reseeded with a certified weed-free seed mixture of native species adapted to the site.
- The permittee and all persons associated with grazing operations must be informed that any person who injures, destroys, excavates, appropriates or removes any historic or prehistoric ruin, artifact, object of antiquity, Native American remains, Native American cultural item, or archaeological resources on public lands is subject to arrest and penalty of law. If in connection with allotment operations under this authorization any of the above resources are encountered, the proponent shall immediately suspend all activities in the immediate vicinity of the discovery that might further disturb such materials and notify the BLM authorized officer of the findings. The discovery must be protected until further notified in writing to proceed by the authorized officer.
- Grazing in riparian areas by livestock should leave an average minimum four inch stubble height of herbaceous vegetation and should not exceed an average utilization of 40% of the current year's growth for browse species. Livestock will be moved to another portion of the allotment where utilization levels are still within acceptable limits or removed immediately from the allotment when the above utilization levels occur.
- Salt, mineral blocks and supplemental feed will be placed a minimum of .25 mile and preferably .50 mile from riparian area and other water sources, including springs.
- Rotational grazing will be practiced and grazing use will not occur in any given area of public land for more than 1.5 months. The number of livestock can be adjusted from what is indicated on the permit so the full permitted use of 27 AUMS is activated.

PLAN CONFORMANCE REVIEW: The proposed action is subject to and has been reviewed for conformance with the following plan (43 CFR 1610.5, BLM 1617.3):

Name of Plan: Glenwood Springs Resource Management Plan.

Date Approved: Jan. 1984, revised 1988, amended in November 1991 - Oil and Gas Leasing and Development - Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement; amended Nov. 1996 - Colorado Standards and Guidelines; amended in August 1997 - Castle Peak Travel Management Plan; amended in March 1999 - Oil and Gas Leasing & Development Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement; amended in November 1999 - Red Hill Plan Amendment; amended in September 2002 – Fire Management Plan for Wildland Fire Management and Prescriptive Vegetation Treatment Guidance; amended in June 2007 – Record of Decision for the Approval of Portions of the Roan Plateau Resource Management Plan Amendment; and amended in March 2009 - Record of Decision for the Designation of Areas of Critical Environmental Concern for the Roan Plateau Resource Management Plan.

Decision Number/Page: The action is in conformance with Administrative Actions (pg. 5) and Livestock Grazing Management (pg. 20).

Decision Language: Administrative actions states, “Various types of actions will require special attention beyond the scope of this plan. Administrative actions are the day-to-day transactions required to serve the public and to provide optimal use of the resources. These actions are in conformance with the plan”. The livestock grazing management objective as amended states, “To provide 56,885 animal unit months of livestock forage commensurate with meeting public land health standards.”

REVIEW OF EXISTING NEPA DOCUMENTS:

List by name and date all existing NEPA documents that cover the Proposed Action.

Name of Document(s): CO-140-2005-052 EA, Grazing Permit Renewal for the Moniger Ridge 2 Allotment, Casefile Number: 0507642

Date Approved: May 2, 2005

List by name and date any other documentation relevant to the Proposed Action (e.g., biological assessment, biological opinion, watershed assessment, allotment evaluation, and monitoring report).

Name of Document:

- Moniger Ridge 2 Land Health Assessment Evaluation and Determination Document, dated Sept 21, 2005

NEPA ADEQUACY CRITERIA:

1. Is the Proposed Action substantially the same action and at the site specifically analyzed in an existing document?

Documentation of answer and explanation: Yes. The current Proposed Action was analyzed in the above mentioned Environmental Assessment. The proposed action is the same action analyzed in the existing document.

2. Was a reasonable range of alternatives to the Proposed Action analyzed in the existing NEPA document(s), and does that range and analysis appropriately consider current environmental concerns, interests, and resource values?

Documentation of answer and explanation: Yes. The existing NEPA document analyzed the proposed action. No unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources were identified through public scoping; therefore, other alternatives were not analyzed. The same applies to the current proposed action given current concerns, interests, and resource values.

3. Does the information or circumstances upon which the existing NEPA document(s) are based remain valid and germane to the Proposed Action? Is the analysis still valid in light of new studies or resource assessment information?

Documentation of answer and explanation: Yes. In 2005, a formal land health assessment determined that the allotment was meeting all applicable land health standards.

4. Does the methodology and analytical approach used in the existing NEPA document(s) continue to be appropriate for the Proposed Action?

Documentation of answer and explanation: Yes. We are not aware of any inappropriate methodology or analytical approach in the existing environmental assessment.

5. Are the direct and indirect impacts of the Proposed Action unchanged from those identified in the existing NEPA document?

Documentation of answer and explanation: Yes. The current Proposed Action is the same as what was analyzed in the existing NEPA document. The direct/indirect impacts would be the same as those identified in the existing NEPA document. The environmental assessment thoroughly reviewed the many specific environmental impacts including vegetation, water resources, air quality, wildlife, cultural, threatened and endangered species, wilderness, and riparian resources.

6. Are the cumulative impacts that would result from implementation of the Proposed Action unchanged from those analyzed in the existing NEPA document(s)?

Documentation of answer and explanation: Yes. The current Proposed Action is the same as what was analyzed in the existing NEPA document. The cumulative impact remains the same as those analyzed in the existing NEPA document. There have been no new relevant activities that have been implemented or projected that would alter cumulative impacts identified in the existing NEPA document.

7. Is the public involvement and interagency review associated with the existing NEPA document(s) adequate for the Proposed Action?

Documentation of answer and explanation: Yes. For the existing NEPA document, notices of public scoping were issued through Colorado BLM's internet web page seeking public comments on grazing permit/lease renewals. No comments specific to the Moniger Ridge 2 Allotment were received.

INTERDISCIPLINARY REVIEW:

<i>Name</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Responsibility</i>
HP Sandberg	Range Technician	NEPA Lead
Pauline Adams	Hydrologist	Air Quality, Water Quality, Soils
Mike Kinser	Rangeland Management Specialist	Range Management, Riparian and Wetlands
Carla DeYoung	Ecologist	ACEC, Vegetation, T/E/S Plants, Land Heath Stds
Greg Wolfgang	Outdoor Recreation Planner	VRM, Recreation, Travel Management
Kimberly Miller	Outdoor Recreation Planner	Wild and Scenic Rivers, Wilderness, Recreation
John Brogan	Archaeologist	Cultural Resources and Native American Concerns
Brian Hopkins	Wildlife Biologist	Migratory Birds, Terrestrial Wildlife, Aquatic Wildlife, T/E/S Terrestrial & Aquatic Wildlife
Monte Senor	Rangeland Management Specialist	Invasive, Non-native Species
Carole Huey	Realty Specialist	Lands 7 Realty Authorizations

REMARKS:

MITIGATION: Mitigation measures that were addressed in the EA and included as other terms and conditions on the previous permit have been updated and included as other terms and conditions on the new permit.

ATTACHMENTS: Allotment Map

NAME OF PREPARER: Hjalmar Sandberg

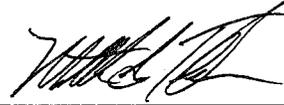
DATE: 4/27/2011

CONCLUSION

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Based on the review documented above, I conclude that this proposal conforms to the land use plan and that the NEPA documentation previously prepared fully covers the Proposed Action and constitutes BLM's compliance with the requirements of NEPA.

SIGNATURE OF RESPONSIBLE OFFICIAL:



Supervisory Natural Resource Specialist

DATE SIGNED:

6-13-11

Note: The signed Conclusion on this worksheet is part of an interim step in the BLM's internal decision process and does not constitute an appealable decision.

Moniger Ridge 2 Allotment

No. 08646

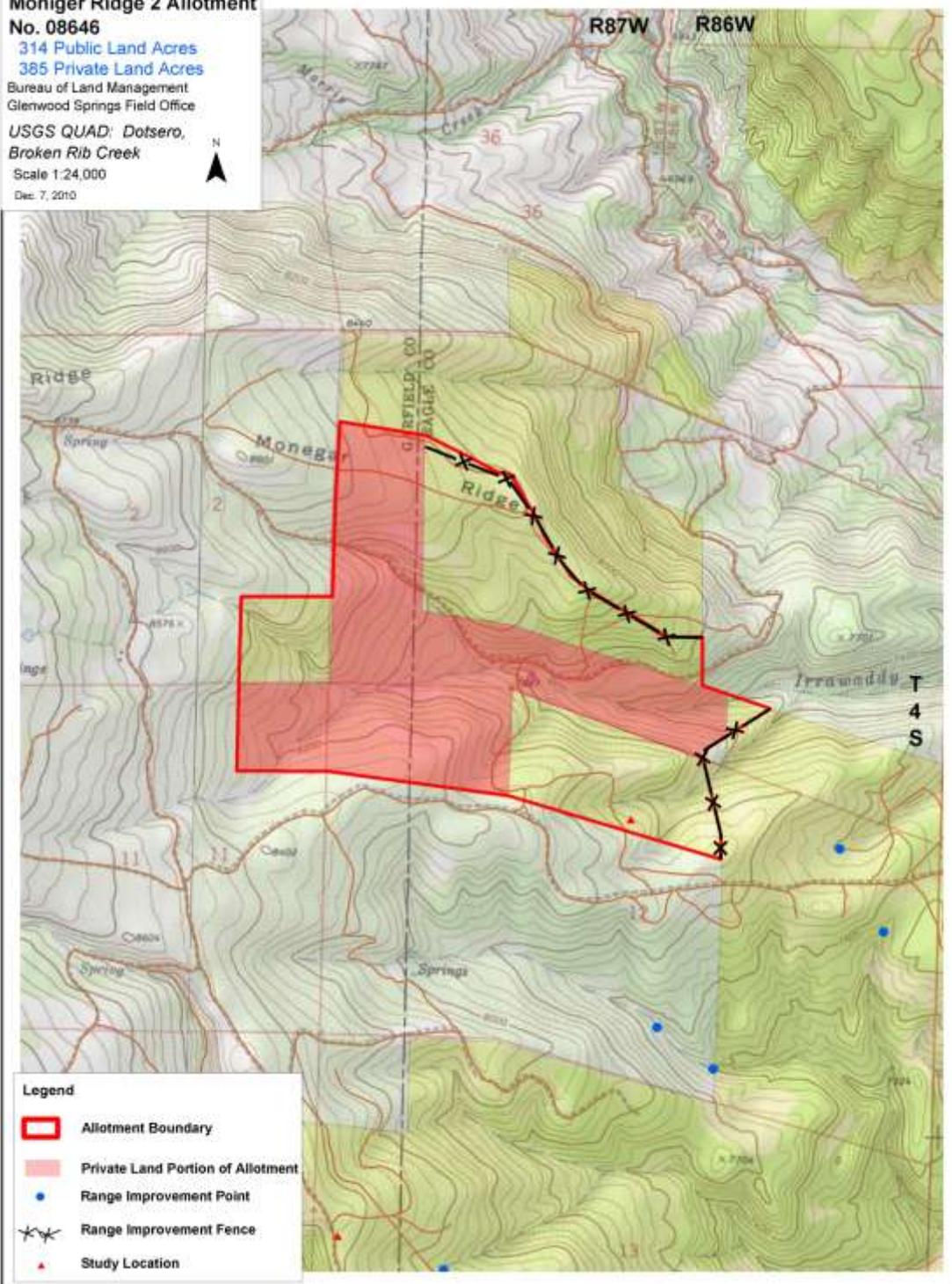
314 Public Land Acres
385 Private Land Acres

Bureau of Land Management
Glenwood Springs Field Office

USGS QUAD: Dotsero,
Broken Rib Creek

Scale 1:24,000

Dec. 7, 2010



Legend

-  Allotment Boundary
-  Private Land Portion of Allotment
-  Range Improvement Point
-  Range Improvement Fence
-  Study Location